

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02437 080914Z
ACTION MCT-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03
SS-15 SP-02 H-01 CA-01 /062 W
-----011477 091023Z /12
R 080739Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6174

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 2437

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, CZ
SUBJECT: ANTI-HIGHJACKING DEMARCHE

REF.: STATE 186923

1. SEPTEMBER 6 CHIEFS OF MISSION OF SEVEN SIGNATORIES
OF BONN ANTI-HIGHJACKING DECLARATION CALLED ON FOREIGN
MINISTER CHNOUPEK AND ADVISORS TO MAKE JOINT DEMARCHE
PROPOSING GOC ADHERENCE TO DECLARATION. FRG AMBASSADOR
DIESEL WAS SKPKESMAN AND I SPOKE BRIEFLY IN SUPPORT ON
BASIS OF DEPARTMENT'S GUIDELINES.

2. WITH NOTEWORTHY CORDIALITY CHNOUPEK RESPONDED THAT
HIS COUNTRY WAS READY TO COOPERATE WITH ANYONE IN OPPOSING
HIGHJACKING AND TERRORISM IN GENERAL. HE WENT ON TO CITE
WHAT HIS GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED SHORTCOMING IN WESTERN
PROSECUTION OF HIGHJACKERS FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, NAMELY
SENTENCES MITIGATED BY PAROLE AND GRANTING OF POLITICAL
ASYLUM TO PEOPLE WHO IN MOST CZECHOSLOVAK CASES WERE COMMON
CRIMINALS. HE FIRMLY INSISTED THAT ONLY REALLY EFFECTIVE
ANTI-HIGHJACKING POLICY WAS EXTRADITION OF ACCUSED TO
STATE FROM WHICH AIRCRAFT HIGHJACKED. ON THAT BASIS,
HE SAID, GOC WOULD BE READY TO NEGOTIATE BILATERAL
AGREEMENT WITH ANY COUNTRY. CHNOUPEK CONCLUDED BY ASSURING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRAGUE 02437 080914Z

THE GROUP THAT GOC WOULD GIVE DECLARATION MOST CAREFUL
STUDY AND WOULD CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF A PUBLIC STATEMENT.

3. RUDE PRAVO SEPTEMBER 8 REPORTED DEMARCHE AND SUBSTANCE
OF CHNOUPEK'S REPLY. ARTICLE REFERRED TO DECLARATION AS
GIVING "AS IS KNOWN - ONLY A HALFWAY SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM"
BECAUSE IT GIVES GOVERNMENTS THE OPTION OF PROSECUTING OR

EXTRADITING.

4. COMMENT: GIVEN ITS PROBLEMS WITH AIRCRAFT BEING HIGHJACKED TO FRG, GOC WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO ADHERE TO BONN DECLARATION WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO GAIN ITS POINT ABOUT EXTRADITION. IT PRESUMABLY ALSO HAS POLITICAL REASONS FOR NOT WANTING TO AGREE TO AUTOMATIC BOYCOTT OF AIR SERVICES IN CASE OF HIGHJACKING, IN VIEW CLOSE TIES WITH RADICAL ARAB AND OTHER MOVEMENTS. ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS ARE LESS IMPORTANT, SINCE CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS CIVIL AIR LINKS WITH ONLY ONE COUNTRY KNOWN TO BE WILLING TO HARBOR POLITICAL HIGHJACKERS - LIBYA. IN THE END, HOWEVER, GOC WILL FOLLOW MOSCOW'S LEAD ON DECLARATION.
BYRNE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRAGUE02437
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780367-0899
Format: TEL
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780988/aaaacuva.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 57381054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION MCT
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 186923
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1503269
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTI-HIGHJACKING DEMARCHE
TAGS: PINR, CZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/57381054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014